### Chicago Wilderness

## A Collaborative Approach to Biodiversity Conservation in the Chicago Region

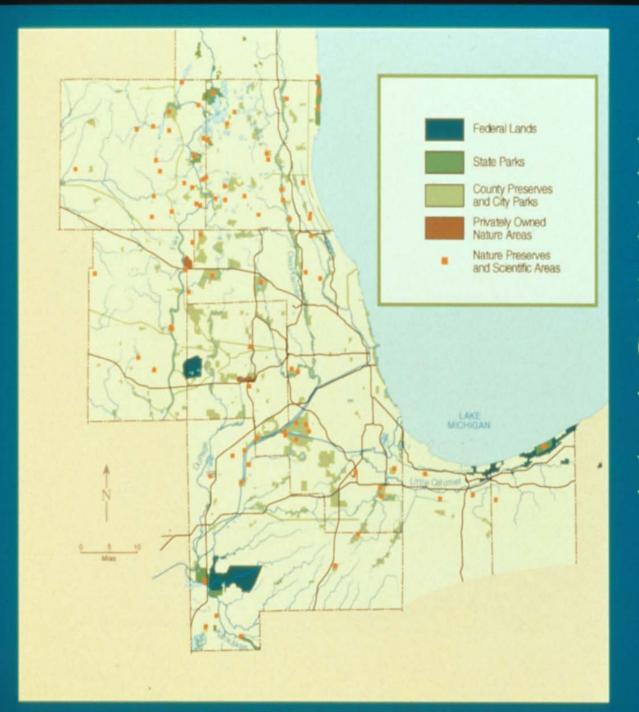
John Rogner, Debra Shore, John Oldenburg



A Regional Nature Reserve

### Chicago Wilderness Region

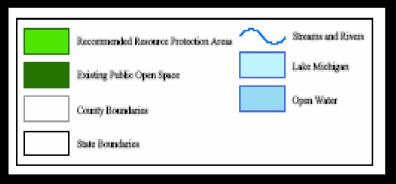




Protected Land in the Chicago Wilderness Region

### Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision



































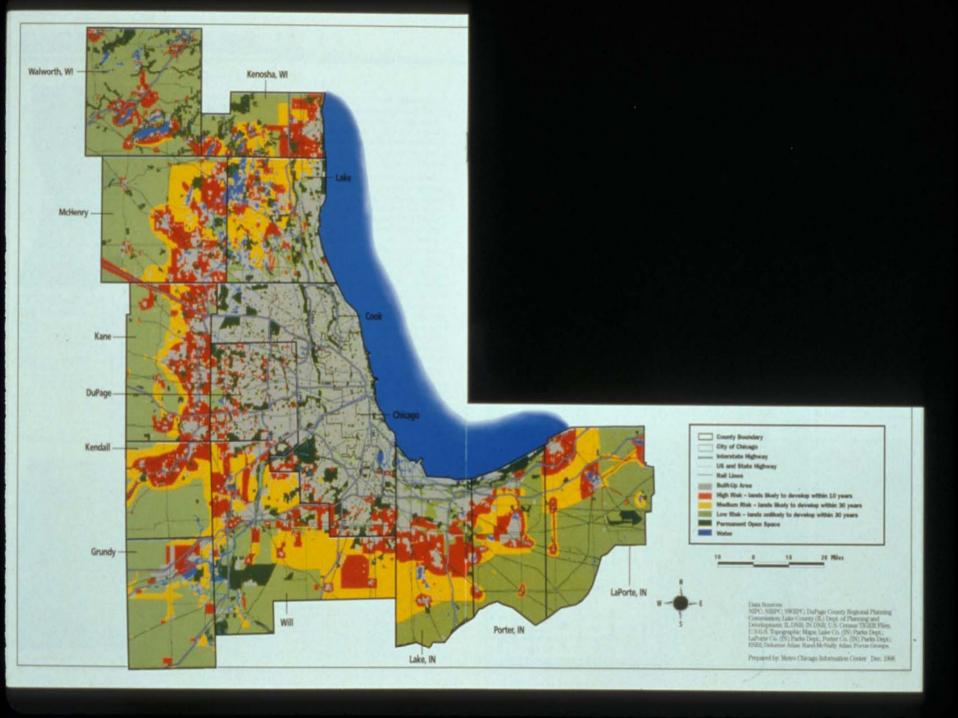












### Chicago Wilderness

A regional initiative to restore, protect, and preserve the biological diversity of the Chicago metropolitan area.

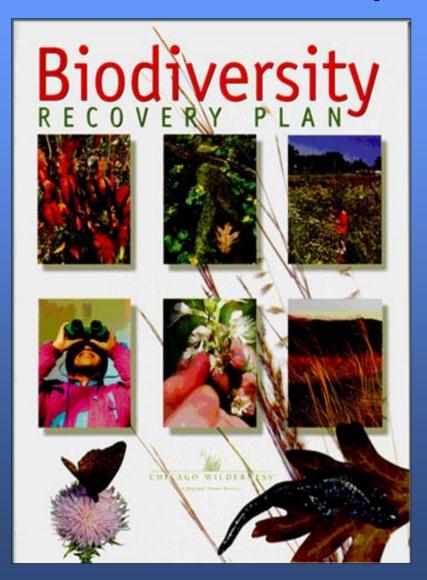
### Chicago Wilderness Vision

- Region's natural communities and open spaces are restored and managed to ecological health
- Accessible, interconnected, restored ecosystems contribute to healthy economy and quality of life
- People appreciate, take pride in, and provide support to our native ecosystems
- Culture is one of conservation and stewardship of nature

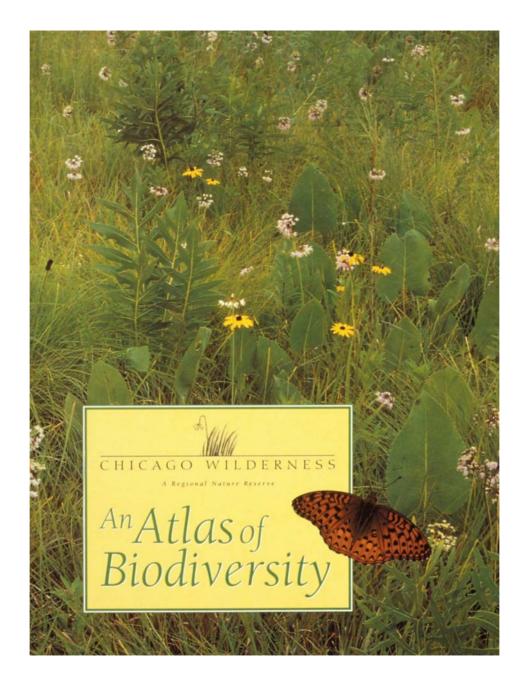
### Chicago Region Biodiversity Council

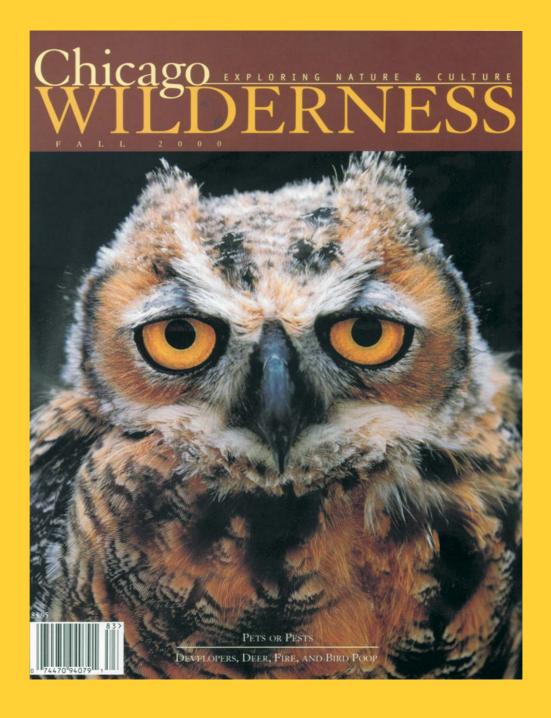
- Over 180 conservation-conscious organizations active in the Chicago area
- Membership includes
  - Landowners and land managers
  - Local, state and federal governments
  - Research and education institutions
  - Conservation groups
  - Corporate Council
- Organized through memorandum of understanding

### Biodiversity Recovery Plan



- Status of biodiversity in region
- Overview of threats facing each community
- Recovery goals and strategies for species, communities, landscapes
- Recommended conservation actions and communication strategies









Mighty Acerns









# Sustainable Development Principles

### For Protecting Nature in the Chicago Wilderness Region



O northeastern Illinois planning commission

### Protecting Nature

IN YOUR COMMUNITY















northeastern literals planning combyligion

### The Calumet Initiative

Healthy Economy, Healthy Environment, Healthy Communities

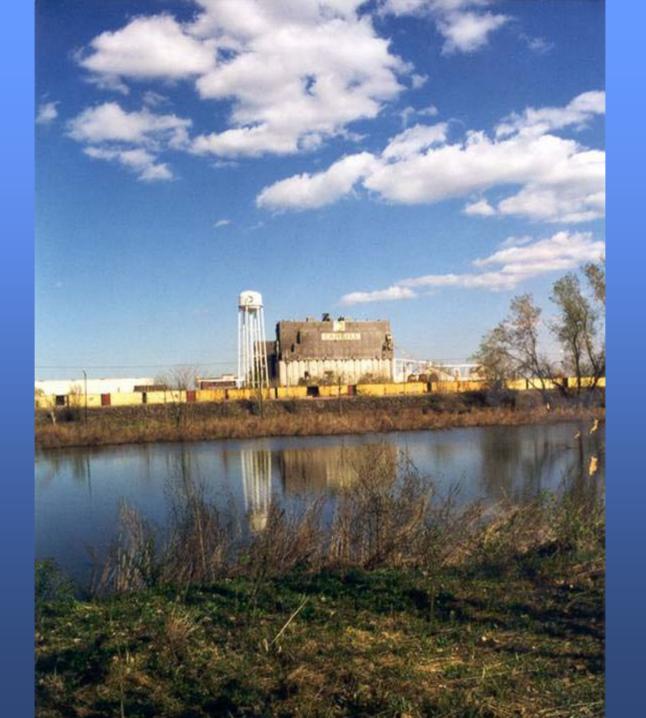


A coalition working to revitalize both the Rustbelt economy and the significant ecological riches of Calumet.





















### Calumet Area Ecological Management Strategy

**Key Goals: Preserve, Improve, Create (PIC)** 

**Preserve** existing plant and animal habitats with high biological value

**Improve** existing habitats that will maximize potential for native diversity and ecological health

**Create** new habitats, where feasible, that will meet the full range of needs for individual native species and communities

#### **Calumet Ecotox Protocol**

#### Protecting Calumet's Plants and Animals

- Multi-agency project
- Goal: Ensure site restorations will reduce risk of exposure to contaminants for plants and animals
- Includes screening levels for soil, sediments and surface water





